

27123

↑CUSTOMER NUMBER↑

Docket No. 04614-4000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.:	10/762,029	Confirmation No.:	3017
Applicant(s):	Jiadong Ding et al.	Group Art Unit:	1618
		Examiner:	James W. Rogers, PhD
Filed:	January 20, 2004		
		Customer No.:	27123
For:	A THERMOSENSITIVE AND BIODEGRADABLE MICROGEL AND A METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION THEREOF		

SUMMARY OF RECORD OF INTERVIEW
PURUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.133

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is to summarize the record of the telephone interview of December 5, 2006 with the Examiner, Dr. James Rogers.

A proposal for the amendment of claim 1 to recite that the microgel is injectable into the body was forwarded by facsimile on October 4, 2006. The cited prior art, Pathak et al., Hubbell et al., Hirose et al., and Dowding et al.. was discussed. It was pointed out that Hirose et al. did not describe, teach or suggest inverse suspension polymerization at al. It described an inverse emulsion polymerization process, which is different from inversed suspension polymerization. The differences between the two processes were discussed and the Examiner agreed that text book references on Polymer Chemistry taught that the processes are different and Hirose et al. is a very weak reference in that it did not support the contention that inverse suspension polymerization is applicable to the preparation of the microgel of the present invention. The Examiner agreed that Dowding described a process for making a Poly(NIPAM) gel, which is not a hydrogel and which is not biodegradable nor thermosensitive. The Examiner pointed to only for teaching the use of heptane as a medium for polymerization.

The injectability of the drug loaded microgel into the body was also discussed and it was agreed that these characteristics distinguished the microgel of the present invention from the hydrogel of Pathak et al and Hubbell et al.

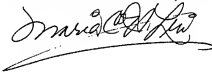
The Examiner also pointed to the need for indicating the continuous medium for the inverse suspension polymerization process. The courtesy extended by the Examiner, Dr. Rogers, during the discussion is deeply appreciated.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. **13-4500**, Order No. 4614-0000. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. **13-4500**, Order No. 00444-4083US1. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.



Dated: December 11, 2006

By: _____

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